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ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE
New York, 16 and 17 July 1992

MONITORING OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION FOR 1992

Addendum

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Introduction

1. The present document is limited to providing annotations for the agenda of the session of the Organizational Committee of ACC scheduled for 16 and 17 July 1992.

1. Dates and agenda for the next session of ACC

2. In his letter of 22 June 1992 to members of ACC, the Secretary-General, in the light of comments received from a number of executive heads, proposed that the next session of ACC take place on 20 and 21 October 1992, as had originally been suggested by the Organizational Committee.

3. As far as the agenda is concerned, the Secretary-General made in the same communication the following suggestions:

> "I would envisage two main items for discussion at the session: the follow-up to the Rio Conference; and personnel and administrative questions, in light of developments in the International Civil Service Commission and our Consultative Committee on personnel questions, with particular emphasis on relevant issues before the General Assembly.
>
> "I would also propose that we invite Mr. Francis Blanchard to meet with us during the session, and to raise in a preliminary way some issues on the functioning and methods of work of the ACC arising from his first round of consultations with Executive Heads. This initial exchange of views will assist Mr. Blanchard in finalizing his report, for consideration by the Committee at its following session."

4. The Organizational Committee may wish, on the above basis, to finalize arrangements for the next session of ACC and decide on dates and place of its next meeting in preparation for the ACC session.

2. Questions relating to the joint meetings of CPC and ACC

5. The relevant passages of the report of CPC on the first part of its thirty-second session (A/47/16 (Part I)) read as follows:

> "167. The Committee took note of the report of the twenty-sixth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees (E/1991/143).
>
> "168. The Committee reaffirmed the potential of the Joint Meetings as a forum for dialogue between Member States and executive heads and recommended that the Joint Meetings be reviewed against that criterion, and that the documentation should be prepared in consultation with the CPC or its Bureau and issued in due time.

"169. The Committee was of the view that the topic for the Joint Meetings should be selected ahead of time so that the dialogue could be of interest for all participants while being well focused and leading to specific conclusions.

"170. The Committee, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 45/264, decided to return to the questions of the timing and topic of the twenty-seventh series of the Joint Meetings at its resumed session."

6. The resumed session of CPC is scheduled for 31 August to 18 September 1992.

7. In his report on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, submitted to the substantive session of 1992 of the Council (E/1992/86), the Secretary-General recalled the provisions of Council resolution 1988/77, whereby the specialized agencies should be invited to resume submission of analytical summaries of their annual reports for consideration by the Council; the executive heads of the specialized agencies or their senior representatives should participate actively in the deliberations of the Council; and coordination instruments such as the Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC and reports of ACC and its subsidiary bodies should be rationalized in order to enable the Council to carry out its coordination functions in an effective manner. The report also recalled the provisions of resolution 1988/64, whereby the Joint Meetings were to be held in New York in conjunction with the autumn session of ACC; noted that the substantive session of 1992 of the Council would be the first opportunity for the new measures for the revitalization of the Council embodied in General Assembly resolution 45/264 to take effect; and went on to state:

"It is already evident ... that an adjustment will be required to the current arrangements for the Joint Meetings since these arrangements are not compatible with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/264. That resolution calls for the themes for the coordination segment to be decided at the organizational session of the Council, taking into account the recommendations of the Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC; and for the coordination segment to benefit from the recommendations of the Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC and from CPC itself. With the Joint Meetings taking place in the autumn, it would certainly be possible for recommendations on the themes to be selected to be submitted to the organizational session of the Council in the following year as was the case on this occasion. However, as long as the Joint Meetings continue to take place in the autumn and CPC continues to hold its main session in May, there would be no opportunity for the Joint Meetings to review the Secretary-General's reports on the themes, as was the case this year. Attention is also drawn to the emphasis that has been placed in the relevant Council resolutions on the personal participation of executive heads in the work of both the coordination segment of the Council and the Joint Meetings of CPC/ACC. Under the current procedures, executive heads are thus expected to participate in discussions on the same thematic reports both at the Joint Meetings and thereafter at the coordination

segment of the Council. It would thus seem necessary for the Council to evolve more practical arrangements consistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/264. The Council may, therefore, wish to review the present arrangements with respect to the contributions of CPC and the Joint Meetings to the work of the coordination segment" (E/1992/86, para. 17).

8. The Organizational Committee will be informed of current discussions on the matter in the Economic and Social Council. In turn, the exchange of views on the subject in the Organizational Committee will be taken into account in preparing for the resumed session of CPC.

3. Matters arising from the reports of subsidiary bodies of ACC and ad hoc inter-agency meetings

9. Reports of subsidiary bodies of ACC which were before the July session of the Organizational Committee include:

(a) Report of the Subcommittee on Statistical Activities on its twenty-sixth session, held in Geneva from 6 to 10 April 1992 (ACC/1992/16);

(b) Report of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development on its 20th meeting, held in New York from 22 to 24 April 1992 (ACC/1992/18).

10. In addition, a meeting of the Ad Hoc Task Force on the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, was held in New York on 6 July 1992. The report of that meeting will be circulated as soon as it becomes available (ACC/1992/22).

4. Meetings of subsidiary bodies of ACC

11. At its last session, the Organizational Committee, pending a decision on the dates for the next meeting of ACC, deferred approval of the following meetings of ACC subsidiary bodies:

(a) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions), which had proposed to meet in New York from 31 August to 4 September 1992;

(b) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities), which had proposed to meet in New York from 28 September to 1 October 1992.

5. Appointments to posts in the subsidiary machinery of ACC

12. Paragraph 20 of the report of the ACCIS Steering Committee Meeting held in New York on 2 and 3 April 1992, reads as follows:

> "Considering the outstanding performance of the Executive Secretary of ACCIS, Mrs. Céline F. Walker, whose present contract expires on 31 December 1992, and who does enjoy no reemployment rights with any United Nations organization since she was recruited from Stanford University, the Steering Committee unanimously recommends ACC to extend her appointment until 8 October 1996."

13. In addition, the Organizational Committee may wish to be informed of developments in the consultations regarding the appointment of a new Coordinator for CCSQ (OPS), effective 1 January 1993 (see ACC/1992/2/Add.1, note 1).

6. Annual overview report of ACC

14. Paragraph 159 of the report of CPC on the first part of its thirty-second session (A/47/16 (Part I)) reads as follows:

> "159. The Committee recognized that further improvements had been made in the format of the ACC annual overview report for 1991 (E/1992/11 and Add. 1 and 2). At the same time there was general agreement that further improvement was urgently needed. The report was considered too descriptive in nature. A more analytical and forward-looking report was necessary in order to facilitate the tasks and responsibilities regarding coordination of the respective organizations which were members of the ACC. The Committee emphasized that the purpose of the report was to serve as an instrument to enable both Member States and ACC to identify and overcome problems in system-wide coordination."

15. In the light of an exchange of views on the matter at the July session of the Organizational Committee, an outline for the annual report of ACC for 1992 will be prepared for consideration by the Committee at its next session.

7. ACC comments on JIU reports (comments on JIU report JIU/REP/91/2)

16. A final draft of ACC comments on the report of JIU entitled "Assessment of the environmental focus of projects financed by UNDP and other United Nations agencies", will be before the Organizational Committee for its approval.

8. Assistance to countries most affected by the sanctions concerning Iraq, in the context of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations

17. On 11 April 1991, the Secretary-General made an oral report to the Security Council summarizing the responses he had received from Member States and organizations in response to a communication he had sent them on the above subject. He indicated that the matter would be taken up at the first regular session of 1991 of ACC (17-19 April).

18. ACC was seized of this matter in the context of a broader item on the economic consequences of the Gulf crisis and the Kurdish situation. While no specific reference was made in the ACC report for 1991 to agency actions in respect of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Secretary-General referred to the discussions held in ACC in an oral report he made to the Security Council on 26 April 1991. The relevant note, issued by the President of the Security Council (S/22548), reads as follows:

"The members of the Security Council have considered the memorandum dated 22 March 1991 (S/22382) which was addressed to the President of the Security Council by the 21 States which have invoked Article 50 of the United Nations Charter owing to the special economic problems arising from the implementation of the sanctions imposed against Iraq and Kuwait under Council resolution 661 (1990).

"The members of the Security Council have taken note of the Secretary-General's oral report to them on 11 April 1991, in which he supported the appeal launched by the 21 States that have invoked Article 50. The Secretary-General further informed the Council on 26 April 1991 of the conclusions reached by the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) at the session it has just held in Paris, where members of ACC agreed to vigorously pursue their efforts to respond effectively to the needs of countries most affected by the implementation of resolution 661. The Secretary-General will coordinate through ACC, within the framework of this assistance, the activities of organizations of the United Nations system.

"The members of the Security Council have taken note of the replies from a number of States (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Luxembourg on behalf of the European Community and its 12 member States, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and the USSR) which have furnished specific information on the assistance they have provided to various affected countries; they have also taken note of the replies from officials of international financial institutions, such as those received from the President of the World Bank and the Managing Director of IMF. They invite other Member States and international financial institutions and organizations to inform the Secretary-General as soon as possible of the measures that they have taken on behalf of the States which have invoked Article 50.

"The members of the Security Council make a solemn appeal to States, international financial institutions and United Nations bodies to respond positively and speedily to the recommendations of the Security Council Committee, established under resolution 661, for assistance to countries which find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of those measures imposed by resolution 661 and which have invoked Article 50.

"The members of the Security Council note that the procedure established under Article 50 of the Charter remains in effect."

19. At the first part of the thirty-second session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (May 1992), some members expressed the view that the matter was not receiving adequate attention within the United Nations system. The relevant paragraph of the report of the Committee on that session (A/47/16 (Part I)) reads as follows:

"161. The Committee took note of the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General, including those in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to coordinate assistance to countries which have invoked Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations. The Committee requested the Administrative Committee on Coordination to incorporate in the next annual overview report relevant information, including that provided by the Secretary-General on measures undertaken and progress achieved by agencies in this regard."

9. Other matters

20. The Organizational Committee may wish to review developments in the finalization of the system-wide plan of action for African economic recovery and development.